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**EVELYN M. SOMMER**  
**570 LEXINGTON AVENUE , 17TH FLOOR**  
**NEW YORK NY 10022**

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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

**ON PETITION**

In re Patent No. 7, 041,655  
Issue Date: May 9, 2006  
Application No. 08/837,840  
Filed: April 22, 1997  
Attorney Docket No.

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed July 8, 2010, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

This patent expired at midnight May 9, 2010, for failure to pay the 3½ year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to JoAnne Burke at (571) 272-4584.

/JoAnne Burke/  
JoAnne Burke  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions